



THE METER

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College students serve as role models

By Tamala Savage
Managing Editor

Ike Peacock, a 6th grader at McKissack Middle School, may never see the bright side of life that includes educational and career opportunities.

Ike lives in a single parent home. His oldest brother is a middle school dropout and his teenage sister has a child and pregnant with a second child. His mother is working two jobs to support the family.

"Theres no one for me to talk to," Ike said.

Principal Christine McCord said that Ike is not unusual. Most inner-city children are begging for someone to listen to them.

According to McCord, many young girls and boys are sexually active when they enter McKissack, juvenile delinquents before leaving and pregnant before they enter the 7th or 8th grade. But,

many of these problems start in the home. While some live in single parent homes or homes where parents work several jobs just to keep food on the table, something needs to be done to keep these students motivated.

A mentoring program formed by students at Tennessee State University, Fisk and Meharry is expected to fill the void and propel children like Ike into the world of opportunity. Designed to provide role models, the program locates college mentors for children who need a listening ear.

"A college student's presence can help," said Ricardo Boyce who founded the African-American Awareness Movement that serves as an umbrella agency for the new multi-college program. There is a solution. There is a way to change their attitudes, Boyce said. But the process is slow and must be done "the right way."

"The problem starts very early," McCord said. "We have so many boys and

girls who are not being motivated. They seem to have their minds on the latest fashions. But when it's time for them to be promoted, their parents are upset, and wonder what it is they can do."

McCord said there seems to be too much television and not enough parental support or quality time being spent. "Parents aren't taking enough time out with their children. They are not directing them," she said, "You're supposed to train them, not let them train themselves."

Located at 915 38th Ave. N., McKissack Middle School is only a few blocks from TSU.

Boyce said, "Some are giving up already, while others think that life starts after school. All they really need is someone positive in their lives. I figure college students can serve as role models and give these students a different outlook on life."

University reaps benefits from ticketing

By Samuel Puryear
Editor in Chief

The lack of parking spaces and a new ticketing policy implemented by the university concerns students.

There is adequate parking space on campus, but some are parking in legal spaces illegally, said Safety and Security Director Raimon Patton.

Records show that there are 21 parking lots and an estimated 5,500 parking slots. Yet only 2,026 parking decals were sold during the 1991-1992 school year. Patton said, "I took a survey of each lot on campus and I found that at least 75 to 85 percent of the cars in each lot did not possess a hang tag."

TSU Student Marcus Cotton said, "At least half of the cars in each lot do not possess tags but with the terrible parking policy in the past, you did not need one."

The university enrolled over 7,000 students this Spring, which means that 3,400 parking slots were not paid for. There is adequate space, Patton said. "We can't get an exact count of the number of (parking) spaces because in many areas the lines have been erased. Students don't use all of the spaces because some are not close to their classes.

The new ticketing policy that was scheduled to take effect March 1 is not welcomed by some students. Freshman Freda Williams said, "I am really embarrassed for the university. There still aren't any signs, and I can see a host of charges being thrown at security."

Patton disagrees. Ticketing will prohibit parking on the streets that separate Eppse Hall and Boyd and Watson Hall. It will also eliminate the congestion behind the Women's Building, where cars are parked tightly day in and out.

Patton said, "We have had the curbs in some areas on campus painted yellow. When a student sees a yellow curb, it should automatically tell them that this represents, 'No parking.' We are going to put up signs."

The Board of Regents also agreed to increase the current price for parking tags from \$5 to \$10. The new ticketing policy was implemented to help regulate the flow of on-campus traffic. All profits from the new ticketing policy will go to a general university fund, Patton said.



Souljah to lecture at TSU

Rapper Chuck D calls Sister Souljah a raptivist.

Sister Souljah, the creator of the new epic album, 360 Degrees of Power, is also an organizer, agitator, lecturer and rapper. Her new album features the fiery single and video, "The Final Conflict (Slavery's Back In Effect)" and a four-album duet, "State of Accommodation," with Chuck D of Public Enemy.

You've probably first saw Sister Souljah playing a reporter in the Public Enemy video, "Brothers Gonna Work It Out." She has appeared in other videos. Her electrifying performance earned her a deal with Epic and led to the 1992 release of her new album that was produced by Eric Sadlar. Critics say it is not an album for the faint of heart.

A native New Yorker, Sister Souljah was raised by her mother. She attended Cornell University (Advanced Placement Program). She was also an exchange student in Spain. Majoring in History and African Studies, Sister Souljah founded and funded a summer program in North Carolina for disadvantaged children.

A world traveler, she has lectured in South Africa, Europe and the Soviet Union. In the United States, she has stirred audiences from Harvard to Howard to UCLA.

"I have a lot of different messages," she said. "The strongest one is to African women: to understand who we are. To develop definitions of ourselves that are rooted in history as opposed to those inherited through the American media. We must divorce ourselves from those people who want to define our reality."

"As African women, we have the potential to do anything."

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On the inside.....

Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity reaches for achievement



Left to right: R. Blalock, J. Griffith, S. Coleman, S. Turner, T. Taylor, (not pictured A. Shaw, S. Haynes)

The Alpha Theta Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. was founded on May 23, 1931. Since conception the Chapter has been in the business of training college men for leadership and achievement, and promoting service in the public interest. On Friday 21, 1992, the Chapter held its first Bowl-A-Thon for charity title for charity title "Bowling for Miracles". The Brothers solicited donations and support from local Black owned and other businesses. The Brothers would like to take this time to personally thank our very special sponsors:

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The fraternity raised \$384.00 in their efforts and this money will be donated to Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. The brothers would also like to congratulate Bro. Anthony Shaw, whom recently received his calling and preached his first sermon at Temple Baptist Church.

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Features

BLUEPRINT FOR MULTICULTURALISM EDUCATION:

Along the Color Line

By Dr. Manning Marble

The greatest challenge of education today is bringing together the richness and diversity of various languages, religions, cultures, and ethnic identities which are reflected in the public schools across the United States. That task begins first with the actions of the classroom teacher, not some detached school administrator cloistered in some office building miles removed from the students. Children experience education primarily through their relationship with teachers. If the classroom instructor rhetoric embraces "multiculturalism", but his or her behavior is elitist and hostile to people of color, the

sometimes perceive differences in dress, hair, skin color, or accent as indicators of inferiority. It's the teacher's job to establish the inherent equality and self-worth of each student in the class. Courtesy and respect for differences aren't just matters of style. They are necessary for a productive and harmonious learning environment.

Second, students must be viewed and treated as individual human beings rather than social categories. NO individual should be expected to speak for an entire race, religion, ethnic group, language grouping, or culture. A person may choose to speak from a particular experience from a racial or minority perspective, and as such, she or he can provide mean-

ingful insights into a problem or issue being discussed in class.

But the teacher should not just assume that because a student is Mexican-American or African-American, that he or she will have all the answers about the historical and cultural origins of the "Cinco De Mayo" celebration, or will know every word to the Black national anthem, "Lift Every Voice and Sing." Culture and history aren't genetic, they are learned.

Third, a truly multicultural education must adhere to the basic principle, according to Professor Billingsley, of "celebrating everyone" while "denigrating no one." The traditional curriculum in American history courses, for example, is

essentially a celebration of the white western European experience. The fifty five wealthy white men who went to Philadelphia over two hundred years ago to draft the U.S. Constitution, are constantly referred to as America's "Founding Father's." Never mind that twenty-five of them owned slaves, including the first president, George Washington. The violent and bloody expansion of white settlers across the Great Plains, which culminated in the massive destruction of American Indian tribes and their coerced relocation to reservations, is described glowingly as "Manifest Destiny", preordained by God. Despite recent reforms in American textbooks, most children still learn a history of the United States which

is largely anchored to the interests of upper class white males. Women, Blacks, Latinos and people of color are marginal actors on the historical stage.

If we are serious about education, let us dare to tell the whole truth to our young people. We must reveal to them the complexity and diversity of other heritages and cultures, and not simply one narrowly partisan version of the past and present.

We must discuss the slavery experience in the U.S. not just by reviewing the writings of Thomas Jefferson, the slaveholder who authored the Declaration of Independence. We must also listen to Frederick Douglass, the great Black abolitionist, and antislavery orator Sojourner Truth. We must reconstruct the American domestic experience during World War II by including the fact that nearly one hundred thousand Japanese-Americans were stripped of their property, denied their Constitutional rights, and forced into armed, detention camps. Our tasks as teachers is not distort the history or culture by placing one people's experience and accomplishments above those of everyone else.

Quality education for the twenty-first century must respect the unique heritages and achievements of all people. This issue is not simply an educational matter, but is profoundly political. White Americans must recognize that at the end of this decade, one third of the United States population will consist of Asian-Americans, American-Indians, Hispanics, and Blacks. America's future is not "white", it is multiethnic and multicultural.



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NAACP fights myths of inactivity

By Samuel Puryear
Editor in Chief

The only time African Americans seem to reach the front page of *THE TENNESSEAN* is when topics are being discussed in a negative context.

Recently, a Tennessean story suggested that the NAACP is falling apart at the seams. Perhaps there is some truth to the story, since NAACP memberships have declined in recent years. But I wonder why the article focused on the decline and failed to examine the reasons for the decline.

The Feb. 23 article, titled, "U. S. Civil Rights Groups Failing in the '90s," blamed the wrong person for the NAACP's decline. Instead of blaming Benjamin Hooks, who recently resigned as president, they should have blamed President George Bush who has helped to create many of the problems that Mr. Hooks was trying to solve.

It's funny but sad to see people blaming the NAACP for neighborhood violence, drug problems and unemployment. Why do we blame the victim for the crime, or the researcher who is trying to find the cure? Neither Benjamin Hooks nor the NAACP created our problems.

African Americans are being neglected nationwide. There's nothing new about that. Yet many are blaming the NAACP for this time-honored practice.

Consider what Rosa Beavers, an East St. Louis drug counselor, said recently when she publicly criticized the NAACP.

"I'm out here on the front lines in the schools trying to deal with the drug epidemic," Beavers, age 31, said. "I see the need. I don't see the NAACP."

East St. Louis is not an isolated community. It's problems are being felt nationwide, from Los Angeles to New York. It is simply another city that has been neglected by the federal government. It's next door neighbor, St. Louis, Mo., however, has not experienced its problems to the same degree, because it is predominantly white and does not have a history of being neglected by the federal government as often and as long as its sister city.

The NAACP is bearing the brunt of the criticism because most want to ignore the real problems. We still live in a racist, sexist and hypocritical society. Pointing fingers at the NAACP will not change that fact.

We need to begin applying pressure to the real problems. We can begin by simply voting differently this year.

Recall how President Bush was reluctant about signing the recent civil rights bill, but extremely enthusiastic about posing for pictures with Mrs. Coretta Scott King? We need to remember that in November. Also, we need to remember that he refuses to visit AIDS

patients or drug infested war zones in this nation. And let's not forget that he recently sold 72 planes to Saudi Arabia for \$5 billion.

We cannot continue to elect people like George Bush and Jesse Helms to office. At what point will we begin to understand that when we point the finger at someone, we have three more fingers pointing back in our direction?

The NAACP was founded to help African Americans deal with segregation, inequality, racism and the other problems that we still face (which were not mentioned in the recent *TENNESSEAN* article--hum-m-m--). We do not need a steady supply of superficial articles about complex issues in the African American community.

The NAACP is not a "black god" placed here to rescue African Americans from total destruction. The NAACP is me and you. Founded as a vehicle to advance people of color, the NAACP alone can't save the race. It needs everyone's help.

So, are you working with the NAACP to improve conditions, or are you sitting back and waiting for it to do your dirty work? The NAACP along with the Southern Christian Conference, the National Urban League and the Congress of Racial Equality helped to win voting rights and end segregation.



Letters to the Editor

Security cries to community for help

Dear Editor,

I am very disappointed in the TSU security department. My friend, who is on the faculty here at TSU placed something in the care of security until I returned from a university related trip. When I returned from the trip, my personal possession had been stolen. How can we expect them to protect the campus from outside influences when they can't protect themselves from criminal activity. Maybe we need to check some of the officers out when break ins occur on campus.

MTSU president apologizes

To the Editor:

As president of Middle Tennessee State University, I want to personally apologize to MTSU and Tennessee State University basketball fans for the incident that occurred at halftime of the men's game Monday night, Feb 17.

The behavior displayed by the two individuals who appeared at the end of a preservation in celebration of African-American History Month is not behavior condoned by me or the university. All parties concerned have confirmed that Shawn Burgess, Sga president had no knowledge of this spontaneous display by the two students. The two involved are being dealt with in accordance with university procedures.

Although I was visiting with donors to our athletic program during halftime and did not personally observe

the incident, I am appalled by what I heard from those who witnessed it. It is unfortunate that what began as a dignified and altogether appropriate observance ended in such a manner.

I deeply regret the embarrassment to all those in attendance and to the university community. We will do everything in our power at MTSU to assure that in the future similar incidents do not occur.

Sincerely,
James E. Walker
President



Religion....

By Lavern Holland
Staff Writer

Some Tennessee State University students said they use prayer, positive thinking, prayer meetings and Bible study to heighten their spiritual consciousness.

Dr. James E. Haney, a professor in the department of history and ministry said, "The two cannot be separated, they are one entity. Consciousness is being aware and one's consciousness is governed by the choices he or she makes, which is spiritual because God gave man and woman the ability to make a choice, whether the choice is positive or negative."

Imagination, defined as the power of the mind to form pictures, can also help you to connect spiritually. Dr. Haney said, "Anything that can be imagined in the mind, no matter the form, whether it's prayer, meditation or faith, can be realized. Desire is one example. If you want a degree and begin to desire it, you will form pictures in your mind. By using prayer, meditation or faith, eventually you will realize what you have imagined. You are conditioning yourself to succeed," he explained.

Some students explore and refine their already developed spiritual consciousness when they enter college. Others abandon their beliefs, said Senior Sharita Emerson who is majoring in speech communication and theatre. "Most students have a religious background that they were exposed to by their parents," Emerson said. "People think that after they come to college, they stop attending church and do not know who God is, but I don't think that is true."

Responsibility lacking in black males

By Brandon Kelly
Staff Writer

What are some of the reasons that some African American males choose an irresponsible lifestyle over a responsible one?

The answers ran the gamut, among males sitting on the steps of the Student Union Building at Tennessee State University recently. The men were asked about the flashy male who refuses to accept responsibility for himself, his family and his behavior (the irresponsible male) -- versus the one who assumes responsibility for himself, his family and his behavior.

"My goal in life is to make money," said Ben Hayes (all names are pseudonyms). "That's all I need to do, and I'll be straight." Hayes said being a responsible African-American male can be achieved the "Malcolm X way," by any means necessary.

Is this a man who can be held accountable for his actions? Steven Walker, who sat nearby listening to Hayes' remarks, yelled, "This is the type of plantation mentality that will keep black people down for years to come. See, it's people with no sense of self that makes our race seem so ignorant. How can you call yourself a responsible black male, when you admit that you'll sell out your race for some dead presidents?"

With unemployment climbing into the double digit figures and college students still needing funds to pay their

bills, are they viewed as irresponsible if they sell drugs? In other words, if a male is earning enough that allows him to take care of himself and others, is that a sign of responsible behavior? Or is he ethically right and financially wrong?

TSU Student Lindel Brown said, "I see it as being irresponsible and responsible at the same time. Necessity dictates that in order for a black man to succeed, he must have an education. An education costs money."

"With many outlets other than drugs being closed to us, drugs appear to be the only outlet to getting cash and getting an education. Sometimes, calculated risks must be taken to when you are trying to achieve a goal," Brown said.

TSU Student James Lofton disagrees. "Sometimes in order to help yourself or other people, you might have to hurt them first," Lofton said. "It's a 'No pain-no gain-type of theory.' If that person stopped selling drugs, he would no longer be able to put himself through school. That means he's really at a disadvantage when it comes to helping his race. So, ethically he's doing the wrong thing, but business-wise, and in the long run, he's doing the right thing."

Possibly Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X personified the irresponsible vs. responsible issue that many African American males must deal with. Now they were both responsible leaders. But one advocated violence and the other non-violence. Is that what causes the conflict among African American males?

Is it based on those who are willing to be men on the surface versus those who struggle internally to evolve into men?

Sometimes, though, what's mistaken for irresponsible behavior is actually immature behavior. Consider some of the behavior on campus and in class. Those who lounge in the plaza at noon, those who miss classes, as they stand outside profiling, are they behaving irresponsibly or behaving like post-adolescents? What about those who miss class for Greek events (so that they can show how "live" they are)? Then there are the football players who fight harder at parties than they do on the football field?

"Irresponsibility in the SGA seems to reign supreme," said Jamal Coxs. "Remember the sit-in which took place in spring of '90," when students took over the A-Building, behind a leader who was half cocked. The sit-in was conducted on a whim, not a plan, and the only thing that was achieved was total amnesty for those who participated in the sit-in."

What have we learned from all this? Both responsibility and irresponsibility are present on this campus. This is the first in a series of articles to be written about the classic responsibility vs. irresponsible dilemma, African-American males face.

The METER recognizes Miss Mary

By Todd Hall
Staff Writer

If you have ever had breakfast or lunch in the Tennessee State University cafeteria, you probably know Miss Mary.

Mary Beene is her full name, and she has been working in the cafeteria for 28 years. She began as a line server, then became line supervisor. She remembers when the cafeteria was in the Women's Building and downstairs in Mary Wilson Hall.

Her day begins at 6:30 a.m. each day and ends at 2:30 p.m. She still prepares homemade biscuits each morning. The 62 year old Miss Mary said she enjoys working around students. "Every year the students change," she said in a soft, crackling tone.

"I can remember the 'Hay days' of the Big Blue Machine with Big John Merritt. 'The football team during that time used to eat on one side of the cafe. If you were not a football player

you were not allowed to eat on their side of the cafe."

A spark came to her eyes as she talked about TSU's glory days. "The students respected the cafeteria, and nowadays the students do not show respect for the cafe." The tone of her voice heightened as she compared today's and yesterday's students.

"Students now laugh about the idea of taking up a tray. They are too good to take up a tray nowadays." Is it because they have received poor home training? Miss Mary said she doesn't blame the parents but common sense. "I believe the parents taught them manners. Some of them do not use common sense. Something as simple as taking up a tray should not be a problem, but it is."

The Black students should take pride in the cafe because it is part of their school. The school was built for the Blacks to attend so why don't they take some responsibility.

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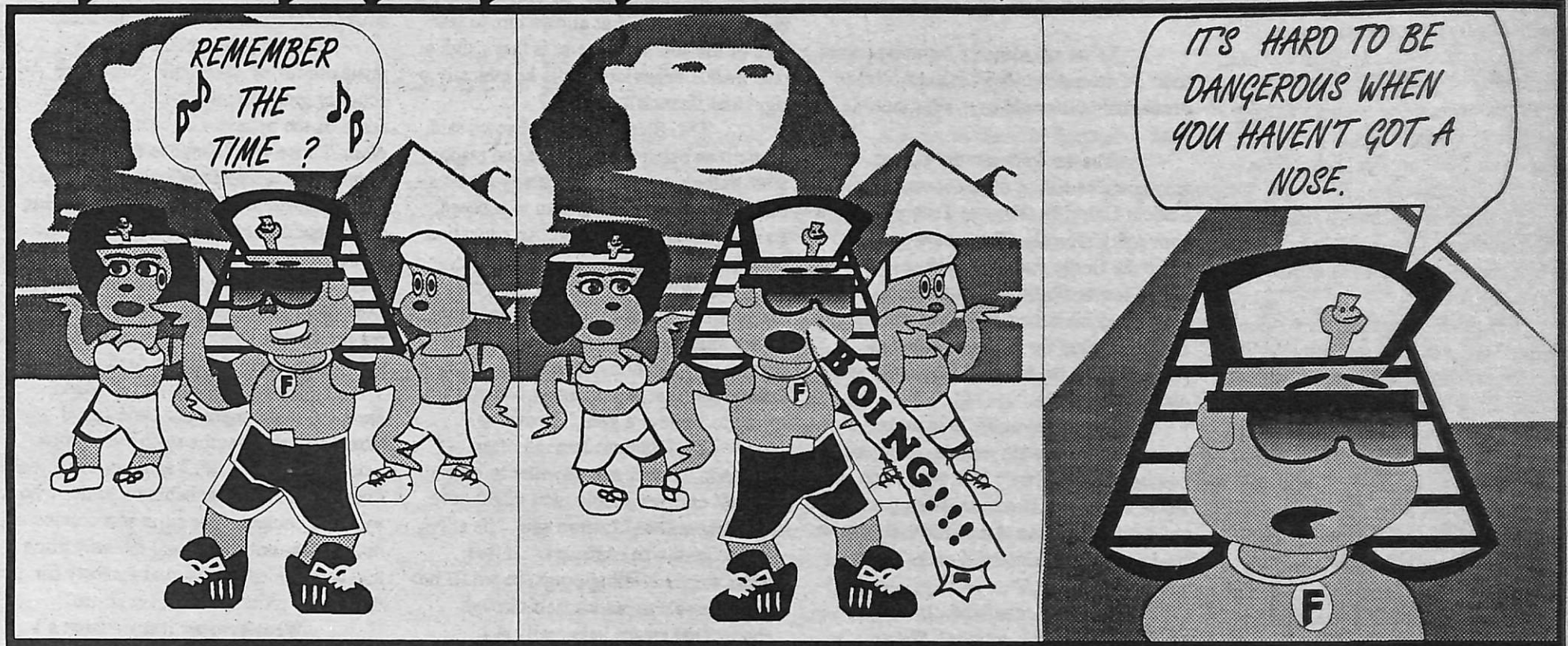
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THE FRESHMAN

BY CLARENCE WHITE III



Dear Patrice

SITUATION:

Never say never. Most of us view battered women as marital problems. However, it's very prevalent in college relationships. Looking at my status as a productive young woman, I've experienced much pain in this area. After a four-year relationship, there seemed no way out. Nevertheless, through prayer and reevaluation of my goals and dreams, I was able to conquer this seemingly dead-end situation. I'm no longer feeling despair, I just want other women to know that hurt and pain are not a part of happiness.

Signed, It Doesn't Hurt Anymore

SOLUTION:

I'm glad that the wounds have been healed. I've have not experienced a physically painful relationship, but mentally I understand your pain. Thank you for sharing your experience with my readers.

SITUATION: My boyfriend does not celebrate Valentine's Day. He does a lot of nice things for me each day, but I feel left out on Valentines Day. When I see trucks pulling up delivering flowers and balloons, I only wish they were for me.

Signed, Left out

SOLUTION:

Feeling left out does bring about melancholy. However, if he truly makes you happy the other 364 days of the year don't condemn him for one day. It's better to hold on to a sure thing, than to let go for a, "Maybe." Express your feelings and hang in there.

SITUATION:

I am sick and tired of all these money hungry, status seeking, glamour girls at TSU. For the past three years, I've noticed that the women here would rather share the brother that's dogging them out than to have one that wants to treat them right.

Why do women constantly allow themselves to be used?

Signed, What's Up?

SOLUTION:

Boy have you stepped on a few toes! I agree that women say they want happiness, and yet we settle for the less finer things in life. But we all know that good guys finish last. However if you finish on top, what difference does it make? You guy--will have the opportunity to say legitimately that women wouldn't know a good man if he proposed to her.

I would like to thank all of my readers for their support and participation. I enjoy writing this column and am elated that I can help you improve your situations. Helping you has made me a more profound thinker and a better person. I will continue to lend my support because without you, there is no me. So again, thank you and keep on writing.

Weekly Crossword

"Body Language"

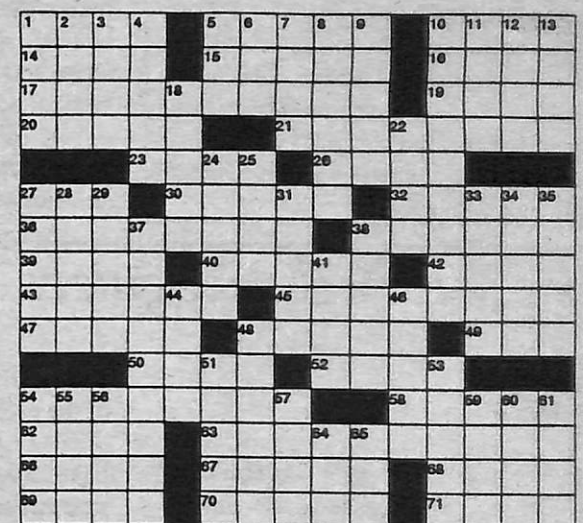
By Gerry Frey

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Sports

Lady Tigers seek fourth consecutive winning season

By Lamont Page
Sports Editor

Head Tennis Coach Gerald Robinson is seeking his fourth consecutive winning season with the women's team and he's hoping that the men's team will also play well.

The Tigers began their season February 29. They have to adjust to the loss of last year's number one and number four players Nancy Milleken and Latisha Weaver. They finished second last year in the John Calhoun Tournament to winner Florida A&M University. The men are trying to improve last season's 8-14 record. Featured players are LaShonn Jones, Kimlyn Scott, DeRante Davis, Angela Martin, Greg Cook, and Chris Toles.

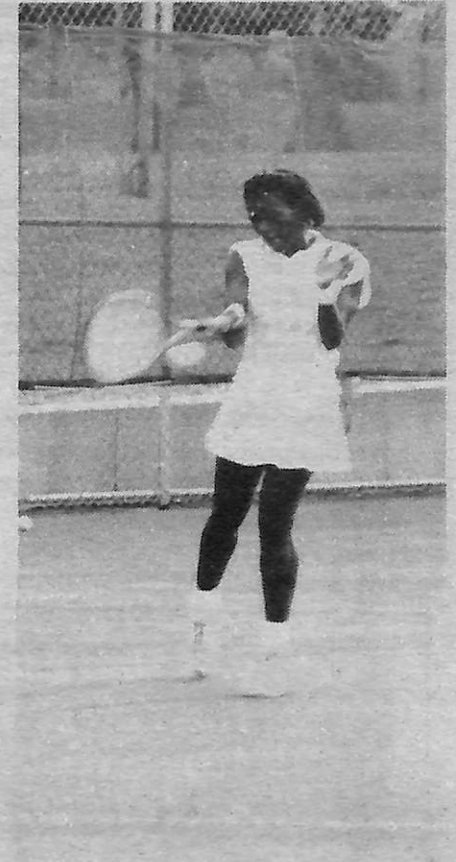
Robinson says, "We expect to be a lot more competitive this year. We are ahead of our pace as far as starting a program from nothing." Coach Robinson has been dependent on walk-on athletes since beginning as coach five years ago. There is only one scholarship offered for each of the two teams. According to Robinson, 95% of the players come out because they want to play. "It impacts our program quite a bit because you are depending on people that might want to play tennis. It is a wait and see type situation. When the season starts, you do not know what you have." Despite being underfunded, Coach Robinson has had consistency from walk-on athletes. Athletes have come from volleyball, and cross-country to play tennis. "They are doing better than you would expect having to deal with handicaps. When they come out, we explain

that patience is important." Many of the schools TSU face have had tennis for over 50 years. When it comes to campus facilities, there are no indoor or outdoor tennis courts. The Tigers play home games at Hadley Park. However, Robinson is still optimistic. "My goal two to three years from now is for the men to be competitive in the OVC and have a winning program. For the women to continue winning and be in the top portion of the OVC championships," said Robinson.

Athletic Director, William Thomas says, "It is very difficult trying to fund an infant program with resources that are not up to cap. We would like to improve allocations for all of our sports. It is difficult to expand and give all programs what is needed." Tennessee State must add Men's Track and Women's Softball as an Ohio Valley Conference member. Since '87, TSU has added nine sports while the funding has not been increased. Not only that but according to Thomas, the department is spending less than before the additional programs were tacked on. TSU athletics have also been hurt from another angle. The football program which generates the most money, in the past has helped the overall program with funding. The '91-'92 homecoming game fell below its annual average by \$100,000 adding another blow to the program. The department has been trying to build from those big moneymaking programs. The budget right now is a little over a million. Thomas plans to propose a budget to two million. "With proper organization, more aggressive marketing, I think we're going to come out of this thing," said Thomas. Coach Robinson is holding on.



LaShonn Jones serves up a winner in the Lady Tiger's opener



DuRante Davis gears up for a strong spring semester

Inconsistent calls baffle TSU

Lamont Page
Sports Editor

Tennessee State University Coach Frankie Allen has coached a lot of close games this season, but the inconsistent officiating during the Tiger's recent 81-76 loss to Moorehead State University amounted to a "technical" foul.

Allen, seeking his fifth victory for TSU and his third in the Ohio Valley Conference, said the officials were inconsistent on Monday February 24. Moorehead shot 18 free throws. TSU shot four.

"It was frustrating," Coach Allen said. "Each time they called something

different. They weren't giving the Tiger's any breaks. This is the only year I have coached, and there has not been at least one game where we have received some breaks."

Inexperienced referees may be the culprit, Allen said, explaining that he thinks the more experienced referees are not being sent to officiate at TSU. "It's not fair that we should be subjected to these weaker officials," Allen said. "They don't have the ability to call the game as it is being played."

"To win a basketball game you have to have some breaks. We play so many teams close. With a break here and there, we're capable of winning."

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